



Turning Point

A Newsletter Published by the Greeley Transitional House
Where we help homeless families help themselves

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Greeley Transitional House is to assist highly motivated homeless families in attaining self-sufficiency by providing emergency shelter, transitional housing, and support services.

What's Happening at GTH:

WATCH THIS SPACE

for information on GTH's upcoming Secret Special Event!

Mark your calendar to keep SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 open. You won't want to miss it!

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2006

Jodi Hartmann Joins GTH As Executive Director

GTH is a vital safety net for Greeley's homeless families," says Jodi Hartmann, Greeley Transitional House's new Executive Director. Prior to joining GTH, Jodi worked as the Development Director for Salud Family Health Centers. Jodi also spent 13 years working for the Greeley/Weld Economic Development office providing financial management, grant writing, fundraising, and grant project management. In 1999, Jodi was one of 12 state-wide recipients of a fellowship from the Colorado Trust. The fellowships were awarded to emerging nonprofit leaders, and allowed Jodi to complete her Masters degree in Nonprofit Management from Regis University. Jodi originally came to Greeley to study journalism and writing at the University of Northern Colorado, and loved the area so much she never left. She and her husband, John, raised four boys together.



Jodi Hartmann
GTH Executive Director

Update from the Board: 20 Years of GTH!



Travis Gillmore,
Board President

What an amazing past year it has been at GTH, as we celebrated our 20th year of providing essential services to homeless families in Weld County. We have undergone several changes with the agency during the past 12 months.

First and foremost was the move to our new facility at 1206 10th St, which allowed us to double our capacity! The first families

moved into the new facility in March 2005. It's a significant upgrade from the previous shelter, and we believe it provides a much better atmosphere for our families as they start to rebuild their lives.

The new facility was made possible through the efforts of many groups and individuals. We are thrilled that the project is fully funded and we only have a small bridge loan that will be paid off with pledges from our capital campaign donors. What a great accomplishment, and thanks again to everyone who contributed!

The driving force behind the new facility was Linda Akers, GTH's Executive Director since 1991. After seeing us to a

smooth transition into the new facility, Linda decided to retire from GTH and pursue another opportunity in the nonprofit community. We thank Linda for her countless hours and her commitment, and wish her the best of luck!

In October, Jodi Hartmann joined GTH as the new Executive Director. The Board is thrilled to have someone of Jodi's caliber join our organization and continue the mission of GTH.

We hope you will stop by our new facility. We believe we are well-positioned to continue to "help homeless families help themselves" for the next 20 years and beyond at the Greeley Transitional House.

Meet a GTH Family: Mitch & Andrea Work Toward a Dream

Written by Michelle Frounfelker, GTH Board Member

The Greeley Transitional House, a nonprofit agency, provides emergency shelter and support services for homeless Greeley-area families. In an effort to help the community put a face on the realities of homelessness, we are offering the first in a series of stories about one of the families GTH has served in recent months. Over the course of the year, we will share with you their experiences before, during, and after their stay at the shelter. We think you will enjoy meeting this family, and learning about their experiences.

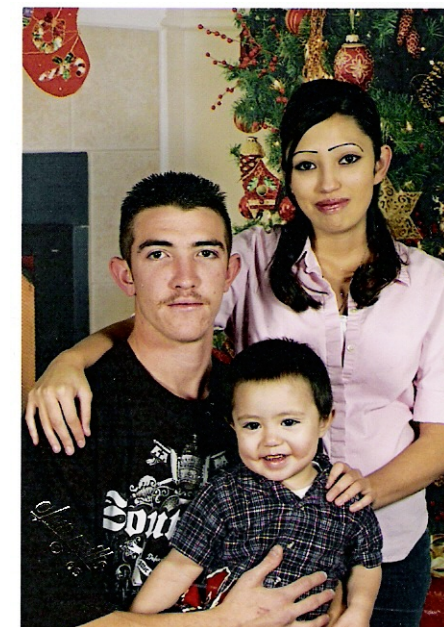
All of our families hold a special place in our hearts. They come to GTH at a low point in their lives, and as a result of their own strong character, motivation, and willingness to keep going. Through the safety and support at GTH they are given the tools to make permanent changes in their lives..

Mitch and Andrea met while attending GED classes at Aims Community College. Andrea had been living on her own since she was 15, and moved to Greeley about four years ago. Mitch moved to Greeley from Texas about a year and a half ago. Their life together began with spending time together in classes, and working toward a concrete goal.

Over the course of their first year together, they lived with one

family member after the next and celebrated the birth of their first son, Elijah. Each stop gave them a new home and a new set of family members that cared about them, and wished them nothing but the best.

Sleeping on couches and in extra rooms is not ideal for anyone. Living with family, as an adult, is hard. There is not enough space for everyone. The routines that any family establishes become strained under the pressure of new people



Mitch, Andrea, and Elijah

and new daily needs. Family members want to help, and they do help—but nothing measures up to the feeling of being able to take

care of yourself.

While Andrea stayed home to take care of their baby, Mitch worked primarily in low-wage service and retail jobs that never gave them enough extra money to save for a place of their own. The lethal combination of a lack of jobs that pay a living wage and the high cost of housing are out of balance in our community. Finding work in Greeley that pays enough to support a family is not easy. In addition to rent, an apartment needs furniture, lights, and heat.

The couple heard about GTH from Andrea's sister, who advised them that GTH's program would help them get on track. They arrived at GTH full of hope and motivation for achieving their dream. This was their chance to end the cycle of homelessness for their own family and to build a better life for their children that they had.

NEXT INSTALLMENT:

Mitch and Andrea's experiences at the shelter.

Quarterly Statistics (Client Services 1st Qtr. 2006)

- Emergency Shelter:**
- 22 Families
 - 2,555 Nights Shelter
- Follow up Program:**
- 35 Families Served
 - 156 Case Mgr. Hrs.

Wash Your Car for GTH!

Donate to Greeley Transitional House by washing your car at Westside Car Wash, 4625 29th St (across from Bed, Bath, & Beyond in Greeley). Before selecting 'Wash' in the automatic car wash bay, type in the code: **3215** (the last four digits of the GTH phone number) *GTH will receive a donation every time you use this code!*

Donation Wish List at GTH:

- Used Computer with Microsoft Office Suite
- Used Lawnmower in good condition
- Used Digital Camera

Volunteer Spotlight: John Campbell

When John Campbell retired several years ago, he realized he would need something to keep him busy. John did some volunteer work for several non-profits in Greeley, until RSVP sent him to GTH in 1990.

"I liked the program, thought they were doing good things-so I kept on working for them", he says.

John served on the GTH Board of Directors for

awhile, but decided he'd rather spend his time working as a volunteer.

Prior to GTH's move to its new facility last year, John had worked for Business Homes, the previous owners.

When John's not spending time helping out at GTH, he enjoys fishing, trailriding, and photography. He and his wife also enjoy traveling in their RV.

"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give."

-Winston Churchill

Volunteer Opportunities at GTH:

- Assist with mailings
- Handyman to help with minor maintenance
- Child care help during evening life skills classes (7-8 pm)
- Facilitate life skills classes in resume-writing, interviewing skills, and job skills (7-8 pm Tuesdays)

For more information on volunteering at GTH, please contact Anna Sanchez at 352-3215.

We could not do what we do without the financial support of our many donors. We gratefully thank the following individual, corporate, foundation, and church donors for their support over the past six months:

Thomas & Doris Meyers
Susan Troutt
Ruth Hoffman
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Raymond Stork
Richard & Mary Martinez

Your tax-deductible gift to Greeley Transitional House supports emergency shelter and support services for homeless families

GREELEY TRANSITIONAL HOUSE NEEDS THE GENEROSITY OF THE COMMUNITY TO SUSTAIN OUR SERVICES. We are supported by a variety of public and private resources, but rely heavily on local individual and business donations. Over \$50,000 must be raised annually from private donations in order to continue these vital services for our community. Your gift is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

- YES, I want to help homeless families help themselves with my gift of:
 - \$100
 - \$50
 - \$25
 - Other: \$_____
- I would like to know how to receive a 25% state income tax credit on my donation of \$100 or more through the State Enterprise Zone through EDAP

Please make your check payable to
Greeley Transitional House
and mail to: 1206 10th Street, Greeley, CO 80631

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMPASSION AND SUPPORT!

(please detach this form and mail it along with your check)



**GREELEY
TRANSITIONAL
HOUSE**

1206 10th St
Greeley CO 80631

Phone: 970-352-3215

Beginning April 1,
we're on the web!
www.greeleytransitionalhouse.com

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